

# Service Learning E-News

Parkland College's Bimonthly E-Newsletter on All Things Service-Learning and Volunteerism

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**"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."**  
—Mahatma Gandhi

## Online Resources

[S-L Clearinghouse](#)  
[CU Volunteer Database](#)  
[Parkland College Service Learning Website](#)

## Share Your S-L Stories

If you are involved in service-learning with Parkland students, please share your stories with the Parkland community by contacting [Gabi Fisher](#)

## Welcome Gabi Fisher, Parkland's New AmeriCorps VISTA

Please join us in welcoming Parkland's New Volunteer Coordinator, Gabi Fisher. Gabi, an Illinois Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA, will be taking over for Josh Clark, who has accepted a position with the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission as a case manager for LIHEAP, the heating and energy assistance program. Gabi is a first-year VISTA, and recently completed a Bachelor's degree in History and International Studies at Illinois College in Jacksonville, IL. Gabi is looking forward to strengthening Parkland's engagement with our community through developing partnerships and service opportunities. You can visit Gabi in her office in C-231, or contact her through her email, [gfisher@parkland.edu](mailto:gfisher@parkland.edu), or by phone, (217) 353-3302.

## Upcoming Volunteer Fair

Mark your calendars for Fall Term's Volunteer Fair, set for Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Flag Lounge. The Volunteer Fair is a great way to network, meet local nonprofit organizations, and become involved in local volunteer opportunities. We had a great turnout last spring, so we're excited to invite you to stop by the Fair, tell your friends about it, or maybe bring your class by to visit with community organizations. For more information, or for a list of participating organizations, please contact Gabi Fisher at [gfisher@parkland.edu](mailto:gfisher@parkland.edu) or (217) 353-3302.

## Join Garden Hills Homework Club

For the past ten years, students, faculty, and staff of Parkland College have been working with 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders at an afterschool program called the Homework Club at Garden Hills Elementary. The Club, a partnership between Parkland College and Champaign Unit 4 Schools, meets two days a week (Mondays and Wednesdays), from 3:00-4:00pm. We are currently recruiting members of the Parkland community to volunteer one or two days a week throughout the fall semester. Volunteers provide not only academic support to the Garden Hills kids, but also serve as important role models to at-risk youth. Due to the success of previous semesters, our primary goal this term is to increase the number of Parkland College students working with Garden Hills students. For more information about potentially connecting yourself, your class, or your organization with the Garden Hills Homework Club this semester, please contact Brian Nudelman at 351-2534 or Gabi Fisher at 353-3302.

### Service-Learning Coordinator

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### Volunteer Coordinator/ AmeriCorps \*VISTA

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## The Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland College

The Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland is located in M-138 (please enter from the outside of the building), and is open every Wednesday from 11am-1pm, and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month from 10:00-noon. Besides offering an incredible service for our students and community, the pantry provides an excellent opportunity for service-learning on the Parkland campus. Check out their [website](#) for more information about Wesley Food Pantry and volunteer opportunities with them.

Please contact Brian Nudelman or Gabi Fisher for information on starting a service-learning component with the pantry.

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## Check out our Service-Learning Websites

We have renovated our Service-Learning websites to make them more user-friendly! Our two websites are now up-to-date with volunteer and contact information for our community partners. Visit our pages on [my.parkland.edu](http://my.parkland.edu) and [www.parkland.edu](http://www.parkland.edu) to get Service-Learning ideas for classes, to discover ways to get involved in your community, and more.

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## Service-Learning Advisory Council Meetings

Please join the Service-Learning Advisory Council for our bimonthly meetings. Learn about our plans for Service-Learning this year and find ways to get your student organization, your class, or yourself involved in community service. Stay up to date on volunteer events, volunteer internships in your community and more.

Meetings this semester will be from 3:00-4:00PM on September 7<sup>th</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup>, in room D-187.